

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DECLARING THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL PREVAIL IN THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

SPEECH OF

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, this resolution equates the Global War on Terror with the War in Iraq, which is in fact a diversion from the Global War on Terror. Our presence in Iraq has weakened our Armed Forces and reduced our ability to respond to more urgent threats.

Without exception, I have voted for every Iraq supplemental funding resolution, as I am determined to ensure that our troops in the field are properly equipped and protected. This resolution, however, is not about supporting the troops; it is about attempting to score points for partisan political gain.

I will not vote for a document that says we should simply stay the course in Iraq. Contrary to the misguided assertions of this resolution, redeploying U.S. troops from Iraq as soon as practicable is in fact in our national interest, and 2006 should be a period of significant transition toward full Iraqi sovereignty, as stated in last year's defense authorization law.

Regrettably, this resolution reaffirms the administration's flawed, stay-the-course policy and conduct of the war, neither of which has ever measured up to the valor and professionalism of the brave service men and women of our Armed Forces. Our troops continue to make America very proud while serving in harm's way in defense of our liberty. They deserve better than a cynical attempt at partisan exploitation.

A TRIBUTE TO ELBA ROMAN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Elba Roman, a distinguished member of the Brooklyn, New York, community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her impressive accomplishments.

Elba Roman was born in the picturesque town of Cayey, Puerto Rico, which is located in the Central part of the island. She came to Brooklyn, New York, in 1954 and began working at an early age in her community. She accompanied her father to several community meetings and demonstrations for the betterment and social progress of the people of in her neighborhood.

Elba Graduated from Eli Whitney High School in Williamsburg and went on to attend Pace University. She continued with her com-

munity work and founded the Alliance of United Women of Brooklyn, an organization of Hispanic women geared to serving and addressing community concerns.

As President of the Alliance, Elba organized numerous food drives, feeding thousands of underprivileged families in the Bushwick community. Her organization also took over the management of the Martin de Porres Day Care Center of Bushwick, which serves over 200 families.

Elba was elected to Community School Board 32 and as a member, led the drive for drug-free school zones and rehabilitation and modernization of many of the school facilities in the district. She was also elected Female District Leader of the 54th Assembly District and as a Democratic District Leader, she became actively involved in the 83rd Community Precinct Council where she and her husband, Edmundo Roman, organized a yearly fundraiser to provide Christmas gifts for the children in the Bushwick area. During her tenure as District Leader, Elba led several voter registration drives where tens of thousands of new voters were registered in Brooklyn. With her husband, Edmundo, she was also actively involved with opening Woodhull Hospital. Elba had served as a member of community Board 4 and is a member of the Women's Caucus for Congressman Edolphus "Ed" Towns. Additionally, Elba was the Founder and past President of the Boriqua Festival in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, New York.

Elba and her husband, Edmundo Roman, who is an attorney with a private practice, co-founded Precision Abstract LLC, the first Puerto Rican title abstract in the City of New York. She is presently an active member of the Sunset Park Lions Club, where she helps collect and wrap thousands of toys that are distributed to organizations that serve children in Brooklyn.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Elba Roman as she offers her talents and services for the betterment of our community.

Mr. Speaker, Elba Roman's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, due to a previously scheduled medical procedure, I was not able to cast my vote on rollcall 288, concerning our presence in Iraq. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

HONORING JOSEPH DE LA CRUZ

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joseph De La Cruz, owner of the NAPA Auto Parts Store in Laredo, Texas, on his being selected as a recipient of the Distinguished Business Awards by the Laredo Development Foundation's Small Business Development Center, the U.S. Small Business Administration, and the Laredo Chamber of Commerce.

As a young man, Joseph De La Cruz worked at an automotive parts store, and the auto parts industry intrigued him with the vast types of automotive parts needed to keep with the constantly changing marketplace. During this time frame, Mr. De La Cruz received a grant from the United States Government which enabled him to attend college upon the condition that he work for the Government for a period of at least five years. After almost twenty-five years of federal service, Mr. De La Cruz retired in 1998.

Mr. De La Cruz renewed his interest in the automotive parts industry by exploring the purchase of an existing NAPA Auto Parts Store along with his son, Joseph De La Cruz II. The project was discussed with Albert De Llano of Commerce Bank, a preferred Small Business Administration Lender. Together, with technical support from Business Development Specialist Gladys Rangel of the Laredo Economic Development Foundation SBDC, the dream became a reality. Shortly after the purchase of NAPA Auto Parts Store, he increased the stock inventory, hired more employees, increased marketing, and all these initiatives established the infrastructure for success. After one year in operation, the store achieved a sales increase of 116%, making Mr. De La Cruz one of the leader in the auto industry in Laredo, Texas.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to honor Mr. De La Cruz, owner of NAPA Auto Parts Store in Laredo, Texas, in recognition of his selection as a recipient of the Distinguished Business Awards.

A TRIBUTE TO MOHAMMED GHRIGA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mohammed Ghriga, a distinguished member of the community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

A scholar and a man who only recently was named Dean of the Business Department, Dr.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Mohammed Ghriba is already revolutionizing the business department at New York's Long Island University.

"The business world is being redefined by technology, with changes that can be swift and dramatic as well as risky," Dr. Ghriba once pointed out, adding, "Internet security and online commerce may be as significant over the next decade as the 'dot-com' bubble was to the 1990s."

Dr. Ghriba's views of success and security in business are formed by his own expertise. An Algerian native, he received his undergraduate degree in computer science in 1986 at the University of Sciences and Technology at Algiers, Algeria. Following research and teaching fellowships at Polytechnic University in Brooklyn, where he earned M.S. and Ph.D. degrees also in computer science, Dr. Ghriba joined Long Island University as an assistant professor in 1994. He was associate dean of the business school for 2 years before his appointment as dean this summer.

As an educator, Dr. Ghriba has brought innovative methods to the classroom for teaching highly complex topics in modeling, analysis and discrete structures. His teaching interests include information systems analysis and design, programming languages and environments, and data security. His research interests incorporate the areas of conformance testing and formal analysis of communication systems.

In addition to his numerous scholarly publications and professional presentations, Dr. Mohammed Ghriba has served in progressively responsible administrative positions in the School of Business, establishing an exemplary record of leadership and service.

Although Dr. Mohammed Ghriba teaches in Brooklyn, he makes his home in Toms River, New Jersey with his wife and daughter.

Mr. Speaker Dr. Mohammed Ghriba is a leader that will propel the Long Island University business department into the next decade and far beyond; his service makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

HONORING ANGELICA CANTU

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Angelica Cantu, a certified public accountant with Garza, Martinez & Co., P.L.L.C., in Laredo, Texas, on her being selected for the Distinguished Business Award by the Laredo Development Foundation's Small Business Development Center, the U.S. Small Business Administration, and the Laredo Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Cantu, in her current position as a certified public accountant with Garza, Martinez & Co., P.L.L.C., is known for her professionalism in accounting and client relations with those in the business community in the City of Laredo, Texas. Prior to her current position, Ms. Cantu was a senior accountant with Baum, Mejia & Co., P.L.L.C. She has shown extensive knowledge in the areas of payroll, tax, and audits through 11 years of experience in the accounting field. She graduated from Texas A&M International University in Laredo, Texas, with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting in December 1993.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to honor Ms. Cantu, one of the valued members of Garza, Martinez & Co., P.L.L.C., in recognition of her selection as a recipient of the Distinguished Business Award.

DECLARING THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL PREVAIL IN THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

SPEECH OF

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, on June 6 we commemorated D-day, the day that American military forces stormed the coast of France 62 years ago to turn the tide in one of the most brutal conflicts the world has ever known. The United States sustained 6,603 casualties that day, yet the final victory over the forces of fascism remained nearly a year away.

Rows of silent graves at the American Military Cemetery in Normandy bear witness to the high price of freedom. They solemnly remind us that there is no substitute for perseverance and sacrifice if we are to prevail over threats which challenge this Nation and the world today.

The Global War on Terror is a different war from the wars of the past. This is not a war of uniformed armies on clearly defined battlefields. It is a war that invades tranquil space and time without warning, carried out by those who hide among and behind civilian populations, seeking to exploit the vulnerable for ruthless purposes.

While we have endured the sacrifice of global wars during the past, we have never before waged such a war in an age of globalization, in an age when technology eviscerates the concept of distance, magnifies our losses, trivializes our accomplishments, and places our adversaries in a far better position to leverage the freedoms of our society against us.

In seeking to prevent another 9-11, the President and the United States Congress would have been utterly irresponsible to ignore the threat posed by Saddam Hussein in Iraq. It is important to note that in 1998, President Clinton ordered U.S. armed forces to strike military and security targets in Iraq because Iraq's nuclear, chemical and biological weapons programs posed a credible and serious threat.

But I am not here to argue the case for war today. The United States and our coalition partners made judgments to enter Iraq based on the best available evidence, and now the commitment is ours to complete. We are all in this together. The successful progression of our commitment in Iraq, from which I remain convinced that an abrupt withdrawal of U.S. troops would do more harm than good, is vital to achieving national security for America, stability and hope for all peoples of the Middle East, and establishing the prospects for civil reform and long-term peace throughout the world.

While our mission continues to be dangerous and costly, it continues to make strong progress as well. The recent establishment of democratic institutions in Iraq is without cul-

tural or historical precedent. This fact, combined with rapid progress on the deployment of Iraqi security forces, gives us realistic hope of diminishing conflict and a stable foundation for the prospects of long-term peace.

As we proceed with our obligation, may each one of us endeavor to discharge our responsibilities in a manner that is worthy of the sacrifices of the United States Armed Forces.

And may each of us recall that this obligation is ultimately connected to the mantle of leadership that has fallen to the United States—not only for our own welfare, but for the welfare of the entire world.

HONORING NANCY PYLE

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nancy Pyle, President of Heartland Hall, Inc. of Bedford, Pennsylvania, who has been honored as the 2006 Citizen of the Year by the Bedford Rotary Club. The Club annually recognizes a local individual who epitomizes the Rotary Motto of "Service Above Self."

Nancy Pyle has made numerous and significant contributions to her community. After a distinguished 16-year career in the healthcare industry holding positions that ranged from hospital staff nurse to management, Nancy embarked on a new challenge. In July 2004, she displayed vision and enthusiasm in building a new hi-tech conference center to serve Bedford County. Heartland Hall opened in 2005 with Nancy as its President, bringing a wealth of new opportunities for businesses, organizations, and families in the region.

Today, not only is Nancy a successful businesswoman who remains active in the medical field, but she is selflessly devoted to serving her family and community. She is a dedicated wife, and mother of three children. And she consistently finds time to be involved in numerous local organizations. Nancy has touched many lives in a positive way through her association with an impressive list of groups like Big Brothers and Big Sisters, the March of Dimes, the county Drug-Free Schools Task Force, the Bedford County Redevelopment Authority, and the Chamber of Commerce and Arts Council, just to name a few.

The thousands of people who know Nancy Pyle—and who have benefited from her hard work and dedication—would certainly join me in thanking Nancy for her contributions to business, community, and family, as well as serving as an inspiration for the spirit of chivalrous virtue.

HONORING RUBEN GARIBAY

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ruben Garibay, owner of R.T.T. Automotive dba A-1 Auto Stop Super Center, on

his being selected as a recipient of the Distinguished Business Award by the Laredo Development Foundation's Small Business Development Center, the U.S. Small Business Administration, and the Laredo Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Garibay is widely recognized by the business community in Laredo, Texas, for his strong commitment to his business and the community. He is responsible for over 60 employees at his business, and R.T.T. Automotive dba A-1 Auto Stop Super Center recently finished out the year with over \$7 million dollars in total sales revenues. Due to his entrepreneurship in the automotive industry, he has previously received the 1999 SBA Small Business Person of the Year for the San Antonio District, the first from Laredo to win the award, and the youngest recipient to date.

Mr. Garibay attended the University of Texas at San Antonio and pursued a career in mechanical engineering. During the summer of his sophomore and junior years of college, Ruben began his career in the automotive industry as an automotive technician at Automotive Surgeons of San Antonio, and was an integral part of the company until his departure in 1990. He returned to Laredo, Texas, with the plan of owning his own business and bringing modern technology to the automotive repair industry. He opened R.T.T. Automotive dba A-1 Auto Stop in 1991, which has become one of the top three auto repair facilities in Laredo. Mr. Garibay then took ownership of several trailer repair facilities, expanding his business further.

Ruben Garibay is married to Tina Fasci Garibay and has two children, Abigail and Isaac. The Garibay family is known for their generosity and community involvement. They are involved in many charitable organizations such as the March of Dimes, The Make a Wish Foundation, The Laredo Medical Center Senior Circle, The United Way, the Christmas Angel Wish, and the Thanksgiving Programs for Webb County.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to honor Ruben Garibay, owner of R.T.T. Automotive dba A-1 Auto Stop Super Center, in recognition of his selection as a recipient of the Distinguished Business Award.

HAVA NAGILA!

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful Cantor Sheldon Feinberg of Beaufort, South Carolina, has informed me that the years 2006–2010 mark the same period in Jerusalem—100 years ago—that a 12-year-old red-headed boy, Moshe Nathanson, wrote a song that continues to inspire the Jewish people and citizens throughout the world. His song “Hava Nagila” means “Let Us Rejoice” and conveys a tremendous message of optimism being recognized as the world’s most famous song of joy.

Moshe Nathanson immigrated to the United States in his early adulthood, and over a period of 60 years added to the richness of American culture, as a cantor, concert artist, teacher, and composer.

The inspiring story of the song and its composer is told in the book *Hava Nagila* edited by Cantor Sheldon Feinberg.

Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate the anniversary of this special song, and the remarkable work of Moshe Nathanson.

HONORING COLONEL GARY
JOHNSTON

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sincerity that I take this opportunity to honor one of the most selfless individuals I have ever had the pleasure of working with, Colonel Gary Johnston. Colonel Johnston has spent the past 25 years of his life as a member of the United States Army Corps of Engineers. Since his arrival as a member of the United States Army Corps of Engineers Chicago District in July 2003, Colonel Johnston’s gracious service to the First Congressional District of Indiana has touched the lives of many of my constituents. For his efforts, and on behalf of my constituents, I take this time to thank Colonel Johnston. Colonel Johnston will be recognized for his accomplishments at an event taking place on June 30, 2006, at the Union League Club of Chicago.

Colonel Johnston has devoted himself to improving quality of life, not only in the United States, but throughout the world. Prior to joining the Chicago District, Colonel Johnston served in many capacities within the United States Army. After being commissioned into the United States Army Corps of Engineers in August 1980 and completing the Engineer Officer Basic Course and Ranger School, Colonel Johnston served as platoon leader and company executive officer of the 84th Engineer Company, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment. Colonel Johnston has also completed assignments with the 588th Combat Engineer Battalion at Fort Polk, which included assignments to the National Training Center and the Waterways Experiment Station in Vicksburg, Mississippi, as well as deployments to Southwest Asia in Support of Operation Desert Storm and to Kuwait for relief efforts. In addition, Colonel Johnston has been assigned to Fort Knox, Kentucky, where he served as S-3 and executive officer for the 19th Combat Engineer Battalion and as plans officer for the 194th Armored Brigade. As if these accomplishments were not impressive enough, Colonel Johnston has served as an instructor for the Royal School of Military Engineers, British Army, teaching command and control topics to Royal engineer and non-commissioned officers. Following this assignment, Colonel Johnston returned to Fort Polk, where he began his command tour with the 46th Engineer Battalion. This tour sent him to Nicaragua and Haiti. In 2000, at his final stop before coming to the Chicago District, Colonel Johnston was made Engineer Division Chief for the Director of Combat Developments at the Maneuver Support Center at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Colonel Johnston’s educational background is equally impressive. As a member of the United States Army, Colonel Johnston completed Airborne School, Ranger School, Engi-

neer Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Combined Armed Service and Staff School, Command and General Staff College, and Air War College. His civilian educational accomplishments include a Bachelor’s Degree in civil engineering from Louisiana Tech and Master’s Degrees in structural engineering from the University of Maryland and in strategic studies from the Air War College. Known as a man of integrity and dedication, Colonel Johnston is a recipient of several military awards, including the Meritorious Service Medal (with five oak leaf clusters), the Army Commendation Medal (with one oak leaf cluster), the Army Achievement Medal, the Airborne Badge, and the Ranger Tab.

Since joining the Army Corps of Engineers Chicago District in July 2003, Colonel Johnston has been a driving force behind many projects aimed at improving the quality of life in the First Congressional District. While I hesitate to single out one accomplishment, Colonel Johnston has had an immense impact on the preliminary stages of the Marquette Plan, which is aimed at reclaiming Lake Michigan’s shoreline for public accessibility. This project is one of great importance to Northwest Indiana residents. In addition, Colonel Johnston has been instrumental in two important flood control projects, the Cady Marsh Ditch Project and the Little Calumet River Project, which, once completed, will protect over 10,000 structures from the dangers of flooding.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Johnston has given his time and efforts selflessly to people throughout Northwest Indiana, the country, and the world. His life truly exemplifies selfless service to others, and on behalf of the Northwest Indiana community, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Colonel Gary Johnston for his outstanding contributions to Indiana’s First Congressional District.

HONORING MICHAEL HALL

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael Hall, editor of Laredo Morning Times Business Journal, on his being selected as a recipient of the Distinguished Business Awards by the Laredo Development Foundation’s Small Business Development Center, the U.S. Small Business Administration, and the Laredo Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Hall is widely recognized by the business community in Laredo, Texas, for his work with the Laredo Morning Times Business Journal in covering all aspects of business in the City of Laredo and Webb County for the past 2 years. He is responsible for the weekly publication, ensuring the quality of the writing, editing, photography, and the layout and design of the publication. Due to his quality of work in journalism, he has previously received the 2004 Jim Parrish Media Award by the Laredo Chamber of Commerce, the 2004 Special Recognition Award for Print Media by the South Texas Workforce Development Board, and the 2002 Brownsville Herald All-Star Award.

Mr. Hall graduated from Ball State University in May 1979 with a bachelors degree in

photojournalism, and a masters degree in electronic journalism in May 1983. Shortly after graduation, he went into education where he taught at the Los Fresnos Consolidated Independent School District in Los Fresnos, Texas, from August 1999 to May 2000. He also was a teacher with Brownsville Independent School District in Brownsville, Texas, from August 1992 to June 1999. After leaving the education field, he joined the staff of the Brownsville Herald newspaper as copy editor in Brownsville, Texas. He was responsible for page design for daily pages, the Valley Business section and the cover of Valley/State section. Mr. Hall also has worked as a reporter, writer, and photographer for several weekly and daily publications in Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Ohio, and Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to honor Michael Hall, editor of the Laredo Morning Times Business Journal, in recognition of his selection as a recipient of the Distinguished Business Awards.

RECOGNIZING MR. KEITH KIRKLAND UPON RECEIVING THE 2006 INTERNATIONAL PAPER CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP AWARD

HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Keith Kirkland, the recipient of the 2006 International Paper Conservation Partnership Award.

This award is presented annually to an individual who has achieved significant results in the protection of habitat through a cooperative relationship with a business or company, and Mr. Kirkland, who serves as the Executive Director of The Wolf River Conservancy, is more than deserving.

For more than 20 years, first as a volunteer, and then as an employee of the Conservancy, Mr. Kirkland has championed conservation and has dedicated himself to protecting and enhancing the lands and waters along Tennessee's Wolf River.

Since 2003, when he was appointed Executive Director of the Conservancy, Mr. Kirkland has raised \$12.5 million to support the U.S. Corps of Engineers' Wolf River Restoration Project. This successful project has resulted in ensuring the protection of 17,000 acres and forest and wetlands within the Wolf River flood plain.

Furthermore, Mr. Kirkland has also helped to establish the Ghost River State Natural Area, whose protected landscapes serve as a recharge area for the region's aquifer. The establishment of this Natural Area has safeguarded drinking water for one of Tennessee's fastest-growing areas and habitat for threatened and endangered species.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating Mr. Kirkland and thanking him for his efforts to protect the forests and rivers of Tennessee. I thank International Paper as well, for recognizing Mr. Kirkland with their award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, June 16, I was absent from the House in order to attend the wedding of my eldest son and was forced to miss rollcall vote No. 288. Had I been present for this vote, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING ROXANNE I. VEDIA

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Roxanne I. Vedia, Business Services Coordinator for the South Texas Workforce Development Board, on her being selected as a recipient of the "Women in Business Champion of the Year" award by the Laredo Development Foundation's Small Business Development Center, the U.S. Small Business Administration, and the Laredo Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Vedia, in her position as Business Services Coordinator for the South Texas Workforce Development Board, oversees the planning, promotion, and implementation of several initiatives that have helped small businesses to develop and prosper in South Texas. Prior to her work as Business Services Coordinator, Ms. Vedia served as a campus service manager for Communities In Schools, a program designed to help reduce the high school drop-out rate. She also previously taught secondary science education for the Laredo Independent School District.

Due to her extensive involvement in several business organizations such as Laredo Business & Professional Women, Financial Women International, and the Laredo Chamber of Commerce, she has established a philosophy of helping increase business opportunities for women through her present position. Ms. Vedia understands the importance of what it is to be a businesswoman, and it is for this reason she is selected to be a recipient of the "Women in Business Champion of the Year" award.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to honor Ms. Vedia, Business Services Coordinator for the South Texas Workforce Development Board in Laredo, Texas, in recognition of her selection as a recipient of the "Women in Business Champion of the Year" award.

DECLARING THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL PREVAIL IN THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, instead of finding, capturing, or killing the man who viciously attacked our country almost 5 years

ago, the administration misled our country and sent 150,000 troops to war with a country without any credible link to 9/11. Mr. Speaker, the resolution before us mentions Iraq 18 times, but it does not mention Osama bin Laden even once. Not only can we not find bin Laden in Afghanistan, but we can't find him in this resolution either.

If the other side of the aisle is serious about a resolution on the Global War on Terror, they would be better served to get their target correct.

Mr. Speaker, we all support the troops—our brave men and women who selflessly and bravely put themselves in harm's way. That point is not for debate. I carry the troops in my heart every day, and I hope that we work for their safe return home as soon as possible.

This is a time of great anxiety in America, especially for the families of our men and women in uniform, who, as we speak, are serving our country thousands of miles from home, in unfamiliar and often hostile lands. Today's debate should have been centered around a bipartisan resolution that would have allowed all of us to be on the record in support of our troops and against those who would seek to do harm to Americans at home and abroad.

Instead what the Republican Majority has brought before us today not only confuses the War in Iraq with the Global War on Terror, but it is also a transparent effort to divide this body by saying to those who want to start bringing the troops home that we do not support the national security interests of the United States. That is simply not true.

After the terrorist attacks against this country on September 11, 2001, we united behind the effort to remove the Taliban in Afghanistan. That country has made great strides by electing a government, establishing a constitution that grants equal rights to men and women, and opening schools for children who were denied an education by the Taliban. Our investment in the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan was both the right thing to do and critical to our security.

Yet our job there is not finished. Much remains to be done to improve security. And most importantly, the hunt for Osama bin Laden continues.

Critical resources that should have been focused on this mission have instead been used in Iraq, a war that was a conclusion in search of a reason, a war of choice rather than of necessity.

Time and again, this Administration used false and misleading information to sell the war to Congress and the American people. The troops were sent into battle without basic equipment, like body armor, night vision goggles, and armored Humvees. We have been playing catch-up ever since to ensure that U.S. soldiers are adequately protected as they serve in Iraq. Just today, the Pentagon announced that 2,500 soldiers have been killed in Iraq. How high will this number go?

Crucially, we invaded Iraq without a plan to win the peace and without enough soldiers to secure a country nearly the size of Texas. In fact, rather than listen to Army Chief of Staff Eric Shinseki, who suggested that as many as 300,000 troops were required to properly secure postwar Iraq, the Administration ignored him and fired him.

This Administration has repeatedly underestimated the war's cost, which is being funded with emergency spending instead of

through the regular budget process. Rather than hold top advisers accountable for critical and fundamental lapses in judgment, the President praised, retained and even promoted them.

And the Administration and Congress have both failed to conduct any sort of real oversight of this bungled war effort. Billions of dollars have been passed to companies like Halliburton through no-bid contracts, unnecessarily bilking the American taxpayers, but no one has been held accountable. The incompetence in the Administration surrounding the mismanagement of this war is simply jaw-dropping.

All of us are relieved that Abu Musab al-Zarqawi can no longer lead and carry out attacks against American troops and innocent Iraqi citizens. Yet we cannot ignore the fact that Zarqawi gained support for his violent acts because of the instability in Iraq after Saddam Hussein was removed from power.

We have repeatedly asked the President to tell the American people what, specifically, remains for our troops to accomplish in Iraq. How many Iraqi soldiers, as the President himself might say, need to "stand up before our military stands down?" To what extent must the insurgency be defeated? How many attacks per day or per week will we tolerate? Most importantly, how many more young Americans are to give the ultimate sacrifice for a cause that has yet to be defined?

I am a member of the Out of Iraq Caucus, and a strong supporter of Representative MURTHA's legislation; H.J. Res. 73, which calls for the redeployment of troops from Iraq. Representative MURTHA is one of this body's greatest champions for our fighting men and women. As a veteran, he knows firsthand the dangers of war.

I have the greatest admiration for the Nation's service men and women. We all thank them for their service.

I only wish that we had the opportunity to vote for a resolution that honors the troops but leaves out the political tricks and traps that should not be a part of this debate.

HONORING LULA MORALES

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lula Morales, owner of Lula Morales Realty Inc., on her being selected "2006 Laredo Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Business Person of the Year" by the Laredo Development Foundation's Small Business Development Center, the U.S. Small Business Administration, and the Laredo Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Morales, a native of San Luis Potosi, Mexico, came to Laredo by way of San Antonio where she attended Incarnate Word High School and Incarnate Word College where she met her husband, Richard Morales in 1989. She has pioneered the way for women in the commercial real estate industry by harnessing the bounty of international trade and investing in economic growth in the city of Laredo in the great State of Texas. She first started out by selling properties but she soon discovered her passion for commercial real estate by developing Regency Park.

Ms. Morales is one of the pillars of the real estate industry in Laredo, Texas, and she helped in the unprecedented economic growth of Laredo through her company, Lula Morales Realty, Inc. Her willingness in reaching her goals by helping others achieve their dreams of owning their own homes or businesses, and going the extra mile for her clients have brought her to where she is today as the 2006 Laredo Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Business Person of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to honor Ms. Morales, owner of Lula Morales Realty, Inc., in Laredo, Texas, in recognition of her selection as the 2006 Laredo Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Business Person of the Year.

IN HONOR OF LINDA T. HARDWICK,
PH.D.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Linda T. Hardwick, Ph.D., as we celebrate her exemplary career as an educator, leader and visionary that spans nearly forty years within the Cleveland Public School System.

Dr. Hardwick was born and raised in Cleveland, and is a product of the Cleveland Public Schools. After graduating from John Marshall High School, she enrolled at Central State University and earned an undergraduate degree in just 3 short years. She was awarded a full scholarship to Case Western Reserve University, and completed her Master's Degree in only 18 months. She began her teaching career at Hicks Elementary School, and then was assigned to teach at Harvey Rice Elementary School, where she spent the majority of her teaching career.

Her wisdom, intellect, and obvious joy for teaching gently inspired countless children who were fortunate to have learned from her instruction. Dr. Hardwick set a foundation for students to become lifelong learners by instructing them in various aspects of continuing education, serving as a role model herself. She completed her doctoral studies in education administration at the University of Akron, and soon began serving as assistant principal at Bolton Elementary School. She later became acting principal at Forest Hill Parkway School, where she is currently completing her 15th year as principal. Forest Hill Parkway School was identified by the Ohio Education Trust as one of the highest poverty schools, yet highest performing schools in the State.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of Linda T. Hardwick, upon her retirement as a brilliant educator and leader for 37 years within the Cleveland Public School System. Dr. Hardwick's legacy in education is framed by integrity, accomplishment and unwavering dedication to her vocation. The immeasurable impact she's had during her tenure will remain imprinted upon the minds, hearts and lives of her students—especially upon those young minds she has guided down the road of hope by guiding dreams into reality through educational achievement, and her exceptional service will be remembered always.

A TRIBUTE TO SANG SU YI

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sang Su Yi, a distinguished member of the business and civic communities. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

Sang Su Yi was born in Kobe, Japan, in 1933 and returned to South Korea right after World War II in 1946. During the Korean civil war, he served at the supply base in the U.S. Marine Corps Headquarters Division. At the end of the Korean civil war, Sang Su Yi returned to high school.

Sang Su Yi started his career as a reporter after receiving his bachelor's degree at the University of Han Yang. In 1963, he also served in Seventh Division of the U.S. infantry in Korea. In 1973, when he was offered a job from the Carnival Cruise Line in Miami, Florida, Sang Su Yi decided to enter the new world of the United States of America. In 1976, he came to New York City and started his small business. In 1984, Sang Sui Yi's wife and children immigrated from Seoul, Korea, and joined him in New York City. Since coming to New York City, Sang Su Yi has enhanced his spiritual life. He attends Full Gospel New York Church and has served in various positions. He completed the Bible College with his wife and he is serving the Lord as a deacon in the Church. Currently, Sang Su Yi is the president of the World Mission of Korean Folk Praise. His Folk Praise team, which includes his wife, traveled to many countries to help missionaries to build schools and hospitals in Central and South America.

Additionally, Sang Su Yi is the chairperson of the board of trustees of the Korean Traditional Music Institute of New York. The Korean Traditional Music team has performed more than 1,800 times over last 20 years. They have performed in Washington, DC, Long Island University, Lincoln Center, at the U.N., World Hunger events, museums, local schools, nursing homes, prisons, and almost every parade and major event in New York and New Jersey. Sang Su Yi has received numerous awards including from the chairperson of New York Korean Association, the president of the Long Island Korean Association, a mayor from Guatemala City, a couple of outstanding performance awards from Seoul, Korea, and a leadership award from Full Gospel New York Church.

Sang Su Yi, his wife and his praise team stand ready to travel beyond the United States to support the missionaries around the world wherever help and encouragement are needed.

Sang Su Yi has been married for 48 years; he and his wife have four children and nine grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Sang Su Yi, as he offers his talents and services for the betterment of our local and global communities.

Mr. Speaker, Sang Su Yi's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

HONORING BUTLER HIGH SCHOOL

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Butler High School in Butler, New Jersey, a vibrant community I am proud to represent. The students and alumni/ae of Butler High School are celebrating the graduation of the 100th senior class on Wednesday, June 21, 2006.

Butler High School graduated its first class in 1907, making the senior class of 2006 the 100th class to graduate from the school. Until 1903, graduates of the Butler Grammar School attended Paterson High School. In the early years, Butler High School was a "regional" high school in the extreme sense of the word. Originally the school encompassed a territory of more than 200 square miles, providing secondary education to students from Bloomingdale, Jefferson, Kinnelon, Pequannock, Ringwood, Riverdale Wanaque and West Milford. Over the years the sending districts, with the exception of Bloomingdale, withdrew from Butler High School as municipalities built their own high schools or regional districts were created.

There are not many high schools in the State of New Jersey that have celebrated a 100th anniversary graduation. Butler High School is planning to celebrate this milestone in the graduation ceremony scheduled for Wednesday, June 21. The day will begin with walking tours of the high school followed by the centennial graduation and a reception for graduates, their families, alumni and faculty. The commencement speaker will be Wendy Larry, Butler High School graduate and the Head Women's Basketball Coach at Old Dominion University.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Butler High School, the faculty, staff, alumni and Senior Class on the occasion of the 100th graduation ceremony of one of New Jersey's finest high schools.

IN HONOR OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. JOHN WEST SHORE HOSPITAL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the employees, volunteers, and medical staff of St. John West Shore Hospital, as members and leaders celebrate 25 years of physical healing, community involvement, and compassionate care throughout Cleveland's west side.

Throughout the past quarter century, St. John West Shore has served as a facility that provides regionally and nationally recognized medical care to the community of Westlake. Along with tending to physical ailments, St. John West Shore promotes and nurtures emotional well being, recognizing the interdependence of body and mind.

St. John West Shore opened its doors in 1981 as a community hospital. It has continu-

ously expanded from its original facility, recently adding a Sleep Disorder Clinic and a Pain Management unit. Since 2004, the hospital has renovated and supplemented its Emergency Department and upgraded both the Emergency Department and Nursery. Services have been extended beyond the original hospital to the West Shore Primary Care Center, assisting patients in Avon. St. John West Shore not only cares for its patients, but also its staff, being recognized by the Employers Resource Council as one of the "Top 99 Best Places to Work" in northeast Ohio.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of every past and current staff member and volunteer of St. John West Shore Hospital. Through a gentle spirit and state-of-the-art facilities, St. John West Shore Hospital continues to provide a haven of physical and emotional renewal for hundreds of families and individuals, on the west side of Cleveland and far beyond.

A TRIBUTE TO SUNIL ANAND

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sunil Anand, a distinguished member of the business community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

A native of India, Sunil Anand is a successful Certified Public Accountant and entrepreneur performing specialty services to the non-profit sector. He has consulted for numerous Headstart and day care centers, senior citizen programs, mental health programs, homeless prevention programs, AIDS and drug-addiction prevention programs, teenage pregnancy prevention programs, and low-income housing programs.

Mr. Anand is a much sought-after consultant because he is very familiar with Federal, State and city rules and regulations for funding agency financial reporting procedures. He has conducted certified audits including A-133, reviewed and prepared financial statements including cash flow analysis and other related statements for various non-profit government funded organizations.

A full-service accounting professional, Mr. Anand has established internal control systems including budgetary controls, structure policies and procedures with respect to the cycle of the entity's activities (external financial reporting), financial statement captions (cash and cash equivalents, receivables, payables and accrued liabilities), accompanying systems (cash receipts, disbursements, payroll and general ledger) and inventory controls. Additionally, Mr. Anand has provided financial and administrative management to the real estate industry; his service to the industry included purchase and sales of apartment buildings (residential and commercial), multiple dwellings, condominiums, and single-family residences.

In 1968, Mr. Anand graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in accounting from Delhi University in India. In 1971, he received Pro-

fessional Accounting and Auditing Training (equivalent P.A.) from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. In 1973, he completed an IBM System 360—Programming, System Design and Analysis Internship Program at New York University and in the same year he completed an M.B.A.—C.P.A. Program at Long Island University in New York. In 1984, Mr. Anand became a New York State licensed real estate broker and notary public.

Mr. Anand is a member of several professional organizations including: Association of MBA Executives; National Association of Accountants; National Society of Public Accountants; National Society of Tax Professionals; and the American Institute of Professional Bookkeepers.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Sunil Anand as he offers his talents and philanthropic services for the betterment of our local community.

Mr. Speaker, Sunil Anand's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

IN RECOGNITION OF JACK WAGNER

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jack Wagner, the clerk of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California. This week, Jack will retire from a truly distinguished career of public service that spanned over thirty years. As his friends, family and colleagues gather to celebrate his career, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the dedicated service of one of the federal court system's long-time public servants.

Jack began his career of service to the courts in 1972 in Toledo, Ohio, with the Lucas County Common Pleas Court. From there he was named Clerk of the U.S. District Court in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and later the Clerk of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Los Angeles. In the summer of 1990 the judges of the Eastern District of California selected Jack to join their team as Clerk of the Court.

For 16 years Jack has successfully administered the 6 District Court offices that stretch from Bakersfield to Redding which make up California's Eastern District. During his tenure, he has overseen the construction of two new beautiful courthouses in Sacramento and Fresno. He was deeply involved in the planning, design and construction of each building, both of which now stand tall as proud symbols in the Central Valley's skyline. Jack's work on the Robert T. Matsui U.S. Courthouse won a Design Award from the General Services Administration and Bob surely is proud to have his name on such a beautiful building.

In 1998, Jack was a recipient of the Director's Awards for Outstanding Leadership from Leonidas Ralph Mecham, Director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. The award paid tribute to his efforts in developing the Capital Construction Training Program that he co-created with Bruce Rifkin. This program

grew out of his work as a member of the Capital Construction Committee and has helped train court personnel from across the country on how to successfully plan and build new courthouses. This innovative program encourages effective partnerships in court construction projects with a goal of reducing cost overruns.

Jack has also worked closely with the U.S. Court's Administrative Office and taken a leadership role in the court's community. In the early 1990's he was a member of the Standing Committee on Gender, Race, Religious and Ethnic Fairness. Through this committee he contributed greatly to the Early Dispute Resolution Plan adopted throughout the circuit in 1999.

As he prepares to leave his position with the U.S. District Court, Jack leaves behind a legacy of strong leadership. I and my staff have had the honor and privilege of working with Jack in the Sacramento Courthouse and know the judges of the Eastern District appreciate his hard work and dedication.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most distinguished citizens, Jack Wagner. As his wife Milani, his children and friends gather to welcome him into retirement I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing Jack, continued success in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in my family, I missed a series of suspension votes, the vote on the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations bill and votes on the Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 251, "aye" on rollcall No. 252, "aye" on rollcall 253, "aye" on rollcall No. 254, "no" on rollcall No. 255, "aye" on rollcall No. 256, "aye" on rollcall No. 257, "no" on rollcall No. 258, "aye" on rollcall No. 259, "aye" on rollcall No. 260, "aye" on rollcall No. 261, "no" on rollcall No. 262.

DECLARING THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL PREVAIL IN THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the men and women bravely defending our country against terrorism and tyranny.

Regarding U.S. and allied actions against Saddam Hussein's Iraq, I believe it was appropriate for Congress on October 16, 2002 to authorize American military action and would vote again to provide President Bush this authority.

The question of whether Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction, WMD, is a moot point and a distraction from a host of

evidence that the United States was justified in its actions against the former Iraqi regime. The facts are that Saddam Hussein had the capability to produce WMDs and had weapons in defiance of United Nations agreements to deliver nuclear, biological or chemical warheads.

In fact, neither I nor the President knew for certain whether Saddam had WMDs at the time of our actions against Iraq. Many of us suspected he did possess that capability. Let me quote a few.

"Saddam Hussein possesses chemical, biological weapons, and if events are allowed to run their course, will someday possess nuclear weapons." Sen. EVAN BAYH (D.-Ind.), statement, Oct. 3, 2002.

"I believe that Saddam Hussein rules by terror and has squirreled away stores of biological and chemical weapon[s]." Sen. DIANNE FEINSTEIN (D.-Calif.), floor speech, Oct. 10, 2002.

"The people of the United States and the rest of the world are at risk as long as Saddam Hussein has weapons of mass destruction. Last night, the President . . . made the most effective case to date that the risk of inaction is too great to bear." Sen. JAY ROCKEFELLER (D.-W. Va.), statement, March 18, 2003.

"For the last 12 years he's [Saddam's] ignored UN resolutions and embargoes while rebuilding his illegal chemical and biological weapons. . . . He is dangerous. I believe he needs to be disarmed." Sen. BARBARA MIKULSKI (D.-Md.), floor speech, March 18, 2003.

"In 1991, the world collectively made a judgment that this man should not have weapons of mass destruction. And we are here today in the year 2002 with an un-inspected 4-year interval during which time we know through intelligence he not only has kept them, but he continues to grow them. . . . The threat of Saddam Hussein with weapons of mass destruction is real, but as I said, it is not new." Sen. JOHN KERRY (D.-Mass.), floor speech, Oct. 9, 2002.

"On Monday night, President Bush, I think spoke for all of us. I know of no one who really disagrees at all. He described Saddam Hussein as a homicidal dictator who is addicted to weapons of mass destruction. It is that addiction that demands a strong response. We all agree on that. There is no question that Iraq possesses biological and chemical weapons and that he seeks to acquire additional weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons." Sen. CHRIS DODD (D.-Conn.), floor speech, Oct. 9, 2002.

"I believe if Saddam Hussein continues to refuse to meet his obligation to destroy his weapons of mass destruction and his prohibited missile delivery systems, that the United Nations should authorize member states to use military force to destroy those weapons and systems." Sen. CARL LEVIN (D.-Mich.), floor speech, Oct. 9, 2002.

"He [Saddam Hussein] stockpiles biological and chemical weapons." Sen. Jon Corzine (D.-N.J.), floor speech, Oct. 9, 2003.

Furthermore, the Saddam Hussein regime was marked by brutality, fear and terror. Over 270 suspected mass grave sites have been found by Iraqis and U.S. and allied forces. On September 23, 2004, Iraqi interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi said, "Like almost every Iraqi, I have many friends who were murdered, tortured or raped by the regime of Saddam

Hussein. Well over 1 million Iraqis were murdered or are missing. We estimate at least 300,000 are in mass graves which stand as monuments to the inhumanity of Saddam's regime."

The brutality of the former Iraqi regime knew no bounds. Victims of Saddam's torture chambers were subjected to vicious acts such as the gouging-out of eyes, severe beatings, electric shock, dismemberment and the cutting out of tongues. Documented chemical attacks by the regime from 1983 to 1988 resulted in some 30,000 Iraqi and Iranian deaths. Human Rights Watch estimates that Saddam's 1987 to 1988 campaign of terror against the Kurds killed at least 50,000. Saddam's ruthlessness even extended to his own family in which he had approximately 40 of his own relatives murdered.

Today there are many Monday morning Iraq quarterbacks. The U.S. did win the war against Iraq and captured Saddam Hussein. However, America and its allies have had difficulty in controlling insurgent attacks.

No one anticipated Islamic extremists would make a stand bringing in al-Qaeda, Baathists and others. No one anticipated civil conflict between the Shi'a, Sunni and Kurd populations. However President Bush, Secretary Rumsfeld and U.S. military leaders have done their very best in a difficult situation and deserve our support and continued backing.

Yes, we all want our troops home and an end to terrorism. Rhetoric and unwarranted criticism will not make that happen.

MARKING THE START OF FTA NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, the United States and the Republic of Korea (ROK) recently embarked on a new and exciting chapter in the history of Korean-American relations. June 5, 2006 marked the start of formal negotiations on a free trade agreement (FTA) between our two countries. I would like to recognize this important event, which I believe will lead to significant economic opportunities for Koreans and Americans alike.

From a commercial perspective, the Republic of Korea-United States FTA (the "KORUS FTA") is the most important bilateral trade agreement the United States has negotiated in over a decade. After a remarkable recovery from the devastating effects of the Korean conflict, ROK has risen to become the 10th largest economy in the world with a GDP approaching \$1 trillion and per capita income of over \$20,000. ROK consumers have the means to purchase our goods, and ROK investors have the wherewithal to invest in our country.

The Republic of Korea is now our seventh largest trading partner, and represents our sixth largest market for agricultural exports. Two-way trade exceeds \$70 billion annually. And Korea is a growing market for U.S. service providers. The United States actually boasts a services trade surplus with ROK of \$4.3 billion.

But there is much more opportunity for growth and an FTA will serve as the catalyst for trade promotion. ROK's average tariff on goods is just over 11 percent—three times higher than the U.S. equivalent. The average tariff applied by ROK on agricultural products is even higher—52 percent.

This comprehensive trade accord will eliminate tariffs and address other barriers to trade in the United States and the Republic of Korea, thereby stimulating U.S. export growth and investment. As the U.S. International Trade Commission noted, U.S. goods exports to ROK could increase by 50 percent and U.S. agricultural exports could increase by 200 percent with a fully implemented KORUS FTA.

New Yorkers, in particular, could realize substantial benefits from the KORUS FTA as tariffs and other barriers are eliminated. In 2005, New York exported \$1.4 billion in goods to the Republic of Korea, including machinery, computers and electronic products, transportation equipment, and chemicals. And the FTA would liberalize ROK services markets, creating exciting opportunities for New York's financial services providers.

Agriculture is also very important to New York's economy. Our state is one of the top dairy producers in the country, along with apples, hay, and cattle. If we are able to lower ROK trade barriers on these goods, New York producers will increase sales as they expand their market share in the Republic of Korea. ROK, for example, applies a 45 percent duty on apple imports.

Despite our close bilateral alliance, U.S. market share in the Republic of Korea has actually decreased in recent years due to the influence of other emerging economies in the marketplace. Enhanced and preferential access to the ROK market for U.S. exporters and investors will improve our economic position in Asia and allow us to compete more effectively in the very challenging global marketplace.

Further, the Republic of Korea has FTAs with several other countries, and is currently negotiating with Canada. The KORUS FTA will level the playing field for U.S. exporters who would otherwise experience a competitive disadvantage in the ROK market.

In addition to the economic benefits an FTA could provide, it is also important to note ROK role as a long-standing U.S. ally.

The United States and the Republic of Korea have a mutual defense treaty that dates back to 1953, and ROK has supported U.S. military efforts abroad, including in Iraq and Afghanistan.

And in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, ROK pledged over \$30 million in aid for relief and recovery efforts—the fourth largest amount donated by any foreign country.

I strongly believe that this new partnership between the United States and ROK is positive development for both of our countries. As the trade negotiations proceed, I look forward to working closely with the U.S. and ROK negotiators, my New York constituents, and fellow colleagues so that we can ensure this agreement is a win-win for both countries.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to extend my remarks noting this important occasion. I hope that my colleagues will join me in recognizing and supporting the KORUS FTA negotiations.

TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ON THE COMMENCEMENT OF ITS 101ST ANNUAL CONGRESS

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the National Baptist Convention, USA, which opens its 101st congress today in Baltimore. An estimated 50,000 members will attend this convention, making it one of the largest conventions hosted by the city of Baltimore.

The National Baptist Convention, USA, is the Nation's oldest and largest African-American religious convention, with a membership exceeding 7 million people. This convention is a great pillar of African-American tradition and history.

It is especially fitting therefore that the inauguration of this convention falls on June 19th. Today is the 141st anniversary of Juneteenth, the national celebration commemorating the end of slavery in the United States. The convention is a prominent example of the power of faith, freedom, and compassion. I am pleased that the convention has taken a very active role in responding to the tragedy caused by Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans.

I wish the convention a wonderful week in Baltimore. I appreciate the choice of my hometown—which has a very special role in African American history—as the site of their convention. I know that members of the convention will enjoy their time in Baltimore, and that Baltimoreans will enjoy serving as hosts.

I urge my colleagues in the House to join me in saluting the National Baptist Convention of Christian Education for its proud tradition and noble service to the community.

TRIBUTE TO GIRLS PREPARATORY SCHOOL

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, in the spring of 1906, veteran educators in Chattanooga, Tennessee—Tommie Payne Duffy, Eula Lea Jarnagin and Grace McCallie—boldly resolved to create an independent school to prepare girls for higher education. With indomitable fortitude and spirit, they committed their finances, time, and energy to establishing Girls Preparatory School, which they opened on September 12, 1906. This year, Girls Preparatory School celebrated its 100th anniversary, and the 2006 graduating class of 102 girls joined over 7,000 women as alumnae of the school.

In a modest, four-room schoolhouse, the three founders laid the foundation for what is now one of this Nation's great secondary schools for girls. Today, on a 60-acre site overlooking the Tennessee River, the school is an impressive complex of technology-rich academics buildings and superb athletic facilities

that serves some 750 girls annually in grades 6–12.

With an honor code that provides an environment of trust, a community service program that teaches that service to others and by providing a superior education with opportunities for personal growth to students of diverse backgrounds from 40 communities in Tennessee, Alabama, and Georgia, colleges and universities across America have come to recognize Girls Preparatory School as among the best preparatory schools in the Nation.

Named the National School of Excellence by the U.S. Department of Education, the school has been honored by the national Character Education Partnership and received the Award of Excellence from the National Endowment for the Arts. Its students have been named Presidential Scholars, National Merit Finalists, and National AP Scholars.

I am proud to stand on the House floor today to say that Girls Preparatory School is poised for another 100 years of greatness, committed to graduating independent girls with a lifelong love of learning.

RECOGNIZING SAMANTHA MOORE

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Samantha Moore as the winner of the 2006 Original Oratory National Championship. Having a history of excellence, the McDowell Speech and Debate team continues on this path with Moore's achievement; it is my hope that they will be able to continue to succeed long into the future.

Moore is a high school senior and member of the school's speech and debate team. She recently competed in the original oratory category at the National Catholic Forensic League Championship, established in 1953. After winning out over hundreds of students to even compete in Chicago, Moore defeated 200 of the top young orators in the country to capture the National Championship. She was among over 2,300 students from 500 schools that competed at the Grand National Championship. Because of the impeccable delivery of her self-written speech, Moore was able to captivate the judges and attain a near-perfect score.

This is an unprecedented achievement for a student in Pennsylvania's 3rd Congressional District. It is the first time that any student from Northwestern Pennsylvania has captured a National Championship in a speech event in over 20 years.

Moore represents the talent that can be found in America's youth. The very greatness of this country is founded upon its future leaders. Moore is an example of academic excellence and leadership. For her accomplishment, she deserves congratulations.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me at this time in congratulating Samantha Moore, her family, teachers, and team on the National Championship with wishes of a successful future.

OPPOSING BILINGUAL BALLOTS

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of reauthorizing the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

However, I am greatly concerned that provisions providing for bilingual ballots remain in the bill.

Let me be clear: I support both legal immigration and celebrating one's heritage.

However, the bilingual ballot provision has long kept new citizens from increasing their knowledge of our language and from fully integrating into our society.

Not only is it expensive to print ballots in a variety of different dialects and tongues, but it reinforces a fractious society.

Later this week I plan to offer an amendment with my good friend and colleague, Congressman STEVE KING of Iowa, to strip this arcane and divisive language.

I ask for my colleagues' full support of this measure and I yield back the balance of my time.

shall truly miss his friendship and hope to fill this void with the warm and comforting memories of our lasting friendship. For Ed and for the Booth family, I offer my personal reflections in hopes that they may bring you some comfort in this moment of loss.

There are those who pass this way and touch a few lives, and there are others, who, by their very being, reach beyond the confines of family, neighbor and community—and in so doing leave an indelible mark on the lives of many, even on the heart and conscious of a people. By his very being, Attorney Booth was the embodiment of honesty, truth, integrity, and upheld the virtues of respect for everyone, and compassion for every human condition. He was not one to rush to judgment, personally or professionally, but relied on his innate ability to identify with the plight of others, and respect their pain. Ed was a man who first and foremost loved his family, and in his associations, required no more of others than he would of himself. A gentleman, a scholar, confidant and a personal friend was Ed, and he was one who practiced his faith in deeds, and with humility.

In his passing, we honor him by keeping his family in our prayers and his memory alive in our hearts forever.

landers in mourning the loss of Philip Merrill, chairman of the Capital-Gazette Newspapers.

Philip Merrill was a visionary who understood the importance of education and the environment. Throughout his life, Philip appreciated what it meant to give back to his community. His philanthropic gifts included \$10 million to the University of Maryland College of Journalism, \$4 million to the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies of Johns Hopkins University and \$7.5 million to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

A Baltimore native, Philip graduated from Cornell University in 1955. In 1968, while working for the U.S. Department of State, he purchased what was then the Annapolis Evening Capital, now known as The Capital. Over the years, Capital-Gazette Communications, Inc. expanded to include the Maryland Gazette, the Bowie Blade-News, the Crofton News-Crier, and the West County News. He also owned Washingtonian Magazine.

But Philip didn't limit himself to the field of journalism. He served as President of the U.S. Export-Import Bank from 2002 to 2005, Assistant Secretary-General at NATO from 1990 to 1992, and a member of the U.S. Department of Defense Policy Board from 1983 to 1990.

An avid environmentalist and boater, Philip loved the Chesapeake Bay and worked hard to preserve and protect it for future generations. He was instrumental in building the Chesapeake Bay's Philip Merrill Environmental Center, one of our nation's most environmentally sensitive buildings and a model for the future.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Philip Merrill a publisher, diplomat, philanthropist and environmentalist who strove to make our world a better place.

COMMENDATION FOR THE LIFE OF
EDWARD BOOTH, SR., ESQUIRE

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today deeply and personally saddened by the loss of my dear friend Ed. I

TRIBUTE TO PHILIP MERRILL

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 19, 2006

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding Maryland philanthropist, diplomat and journalist. It also is with great sadness that I join many Mary-

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, June 20, 2006 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 21

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine safer technology in the context of chemical site security.

SD-628

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (the "Corruption Convention"), adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on October 31, 2003 (Treaty Doc. 109-06).

SD-419

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 480, to extend Federal recognition to the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe—Eastern Division, the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe, Inc., the Monacan Indian Nation, and the Nansemond Indian Tribe, and S. 437, to expedite review of the grand River Band of Ottawa Indians of Michigan to secure a timely and just determination of whether that group is entitled to recognition as a Federal Indian tribe.

SR-485

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine if Congress can protect copyright and promote innovation relating to the analog hold.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine economics, service, and capacity in the freight railroad industry.

SD-562

Aging

To hold hearings to examine ensuring seniors don't outlive their savings relating to managing retirement assets.

SD-106

10:30 a.m.

Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Steven C. Preston, of Illinois, to

be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

SR-428A

11:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Philip D. Moeller, of Washington, and Jon Wellingshoff, of Nevada, each to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

SD-366

2 p.m.

Judiciary

Constitution, Civil Rights and Property Rights Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine policy and perspectives and views from the field regarding the Voting Rights Act.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion Subcommittee
Western Hemisphere, Peace Corps and Narcotics Affairs Subcommittee
To hold joint hearings to examine international methamphetamine trafficking.

SD-419

Energy and Natural Resources

Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the Government Accountability Office report entitled "Wildland Fire Suppression-Lack of Clear Guidance Raises Concerns about Cost Sharing between Federal and Nonfederal entities" (GAO-06-570).

SD-366

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Technology, Innovation, and Competitiveness Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine accelerating the adoption of health information technology.

SD-562

Intelligence

Closed business meeting to consider intelligence matters.

SH-219

4 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Neil M. Gorsuch, of Colorado, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit.

SD-226

JUNE 22

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

Clean Air, Climate Change, and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings to examine the regulatory processes for new and existing nuclear plants.

SD-628

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine energy security in Latin America.

SD-419

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider the report on the Indian Lobbying Misconduct Investigation, and other pending matters.

SR-485

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-226

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 2747, to enhance energy efficiency and conserve oil and natural gas.

SD-366

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine new ideas for making the medical liability system work better for patients.

SD-430

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Trade, Tourism, and Economic Development Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the state of the U.S. tourism industry.

SD-562

Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending VA legislation.

SR-418

1 p.m.

Appropriations

Business meeting to markup H.R. 5384, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, H.R. 5521, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and to consider 302(b) subcommittee allocations of budget outlays and new budget authority for fiscal year 2007.

SD-106

2 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to markup S. 2686, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 and for other purposes.

Room to be announced

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Clifford M. Sobel, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to the Federative Republic of Brazil.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine effort to assure healthy initiatives in health information technology.

SD-342

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 574, to amend the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor Act of 1994 to increase the authorization of appropriations and modify the date on which the authority of the Secretary of the Interior terminates under the Act, S. 1387, to provide for an update of the Cultural Heritage and Land Management Plan for the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, to extend the authority of the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission, to authorize the undertaking of a special resource study of sites and landscape features within the Corridor, and to authorize additional appropriations for the Corridor, S. 1721, to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to extend the authorization for certain national heritage areas, S. 2037, to establish the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area in the State of Colorado, and S. 2645, to establish the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area.

SD-366

Intelligence

To hold a closed briefing regarding intelligence matters.

SH-219

3 p.m.

JUNE 28

JULY 19

Judiciary

Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the AT&T and BellSouth merger and its meaning for consumers.

SD-226

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Native American Housing Programs.

SR-485

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation Technology, Innovation, and Competitiveness Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine high performance computing.

SD-562

3:30 p.m.

JUNE 29

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the Iran Libya Sanctions Act.

SD-538

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-562

POSTPONEMENTS

JUNE 23

JULY 13

JUNE 28

1 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold a closed briefing on State Department and Defense Department cooperation overseas.

S-407, Capitol

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine unmanned aerial systems in Alaska.

SD-562

9:30 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine antitrust concerns relating to credit card interchange rates.

SD-226